Resolution condemning the military coup in Burma and the detainment of its political leaders; and urging United States federal officials to take swift action to support their release and a peaceful transition to democracy.

WHEREAS, The people of Burma have a long history in fighting against repressive military regimes since 1962 after its independence from British rule; and

WHEREAS, After decades of uprisings, in 2008, Burma was on the path of limited democracy with reforms allowing the ratification of a constitution and the future formation of a shared Parliamentary body; and

WHEREAS, In November 2015, the National League of Democracy (NLD) won a general election by a landslide, while the military still retained significant seats in Parliament; and

WHEREAS, While there is hope for a full transition to a democratic government, there is growing concern of human rights abuses and displacement of ethnic minorities, such as the Rohingya people; and

WHEREAS, In November 2020, an election was held in which the National League of Democracy (NLD) won with more than 80% of the votes claiming a majority of the Parliamentary seats; and

WHEREAS, The military made claims of election fraud and actively challenged the results leading to the civilian-appointed Union Election Commission of Burma to reject the allegations and support the outcome of the elections, and

WHEREAS, Days after the Election Commission’s decision, on February 1, 2020, the military detained Aung San Suu Kyi, President Win Myint, and other senior officials in an early
morning raid declaring a state of emergency and seizing control of the government while
disrupting civilian access to the internet; and

WHEREAS, This military takeover sets Burma back by decades and impedes the
possibility of national reconciliation and a peaceful transition of power; further exacerbating
human rights conditions; and

WHEREAS, The United Nations, United Kingdom, European Union, and United States
have publicly denounced the military takeover and called for the release of all political
prisoners; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco Bay Area is home to thousands of immigrants and refugees
who fled Burma due to political repression, human rights abuses, and economic instability;
and

WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors historically stands in solidarity with international
movements for peace and democracy; and

WHEREAS, The civilians of Burma are organizing a national strike and peaceful
uprising to reject the coup; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors stands firmly with the people of in their
pursuit for a fair, just, and sustainable Democratic sovereign government; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors calls on the Biden-Harris
Administration and the United States Congress to use their powers through policies and
international relationships to leverage pressure on the military to release political prisoners
and to relinquish control; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors strongly urges United States
Federal officials to also call on United States based companies, particularly social media
networks such as Facebook, to take decisive action to condemn the military coup and to
preventing the spread of misinformation and violence; and, be it
FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk of the Board to send this Resolution to U.S. Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, the Bay Area Congressional Delegates, the Office of the Secretary of State, and the Office of the President of the United States.
Resolution condemning the military coup in Burma and the detainment of its political leaders; and urging United States federal officials to take swift action to support their release and a peaceful transition to democracy.

February 09, 2021 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED
   Ayes: 11 - Chan, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 2/9/2021 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without her approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board